WO 2005/058519 PCT/US2004/041488

What is claimed is:

- A disposable diamond die comprising:
 - a die core comprised of diamond; and
 - at least two pre-stressed rings of increasing diameter placed around the die core, wherein the at least two rings form a container housing the die core.
- The disposable die of claim 1, wherein the at least two rings are selected from split rings, washers, sleeves, bands, wires, braids, and combinations thereof.
- The disposable die of claim 1, wherein the diamond is selected from synthetic diamond, natural diamond, polycrystalline diamond, and mixtures thereof.
- The disposable die of claim 3, wherein the die is comprised of polycrystalline diamond.
- The disposable die of claim 1, wherein at least one ring is comprised of a metal, a fiber reinforced composite, or a combination thereof.
- The disposable die of claim 1, further comprising a retaining material positioned between the die core and a first of the rings or between a pair of consecutive rings.
- The disposable die of claim 6, wherein the retaining material is selected from a spot weld, a thin metal film, a foil, an adhesive foil, a coating, an adhesive, a wedge, a lubricant, and combinations thereof.
- 8. The disposable die of claim 1, wherein a retaining material is located between each of the die core and a first ring, and each pair of consecutive rings.
- 9. The disposable die of claim 1, wherein the die has a diameter of about 1 to about 50 mm
- 10. The disposable die of claim 1, wherein the die core and the rings have mating geometrical features.
- 11. The disposable die of claim 1, wherein the die core is generally cylindrical in shape.

WO 2005/058519 PCT/US2004/041488

12. A method for forming a disposable diamond die assembly, comprising the steps of:

providing a die core comprised of diamond;

providing at least two rings of increasing diameter around the die core forming a container housing, the die core and the container housing each having mating geometrical features; and

securing the die core in the container housing by contacting the respective mating geometrical features and causing a deformation in at least one of the mating features, the deformation providing mechanical forces sufficient to secure the die core in the container housing.

- 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the securing comprises press fitting of the mating geometric features.
- 14. The method of claim 12, wherein the securing comprises shrink fitting of the mating geometric features.
- 15. The method of claim 12, wherein the mating geometric features have dimensions that creates an interference fit.
- 16. The method of claim 12, wherein the diamond is selected from synthetic diamond, natural diamond, polycrystalline diamond, and mixtures thereof.
- 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the at least two rings comprise at least one of a metal and a fiber reinforced composite.
- The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of heat-treating the die at a temperature of at least about 300°C.
- 19. The method of claim 12, further comprising providing a retaining device positioned between the die core and a first of the rings.
- 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the retaining device comprises one or more of a spot weld, a thin metal film, a foil, an adhesive foil, a wedge, a lubricant, and a combination thereof.